



Ohio High School Athletic Association
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Guidance for 2020-2021–High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

Bylaw 4-4-- Scholarship

Overview – Restoration/Removal of Eligibility

Fundamental to the privilege of participation in interscholastic athletics is the notion that students are to be scholars first and athletes second. Thus, the members have adopted a series of bylaws that reinforce a minimum level of scholastic achievement that is required for a student to be eligible to participate in contests, **which are defined as any game, meet, competition, preview or scrimmage.** Practices and training are exempt from this prohibition, and schools may choose to allow students who are academically ineligible to continue to practice with their teams.

This section of the student eligibility bylaw represents the only required OHSAA academic standard. The required grade point average standard (G.P.A.) is mandated by state law for all schools in Ohio. The G.P.A. is established by the local Board of Education or governing board in a non-public school and is overseen exclusively by the member school. In addition, member schools may adopt more stringent standards and may review them more frequently; however, a student who is not compliant with this bylaw may not have his or her eligibility restored except at the beginning of the next grading period as stipulated in Bylaw 4-4-3.

Please note that students who are not enrolled in the member school are required to fulfill these scholarship requirements. That includes students who are home educated. Despite what some may contend, interscholastic athletics is a privilege to be accorded to those who meet the eligibility standards. Refusal to comply with this scholarship standard shall render the student ineligible.

The intent of this series on the Scholarship Bylaw is to provide guidance as to the purpose behind each bylaw and any action required in support of adopted exceptions.

This document will focus on **Bylaw 4-4-3 – Restoration or Removal of Scholastic Eligibility.** Bylaw 4-4-3 reads as follows:

4-4-3 The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period; at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. For the purposes of this bylaw, “school day” includes faculty in-service days, calamity days and regular school attendance days but not holidays or school breaks.

EXCEPTION 1: Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season.

EXCEPTION 2: A student coming off the “ineligible status” may become eligible **after the fifth calendar day immediately following the end of the grading period provided those grades can be obtained and verified by a school administrator.**

Examples for Application of Bylaw 4-4-3:

Example #1:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 4	Nov. 5	Nov. 6	Nov. 7	Nov. 8	Nov. 9 Grading Period Ends	Nov. 10
Nov. 11	Nov. 12 Regular School Day (1)	Nov. 13 Regular School Day (2)	Nov. 14 Regular School Day (3)	Nov. 15 Regular School Day (4)	Nov. 16 Regular School Day (5)**	Nov. 17

4/3/2020

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day

Example #2:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 1	April 2	April 3 Grading Period Ends	April 4 Calamity Day (1)	April 5 Easter Break (Holiday)	April 6 Easter Break (Holiday)	April 7
April 8	April 9 Faculty In- Service Day (2)	April 10 Regular School Day (3)	April 11 Regular School Day (4)	April 12 Regular School Day (5)**	April 13	April 14

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day

Example #3:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 16	Dec. 17	Dec. 18	Dec. 19	Dec. 20 Grading Period Ends	Dec. 21 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 22
Dec. 23	Dec. 24 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 25 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 26 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 27 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 28 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 29
Dec. 30	Dec. 31 Winter Break (Holiday)	Jan. 1 Calamity Day (1)	Jan. 2 Regular School Day (2)	Jan. 3 Regular School Day (3)	Jan. 4 Regular School Day (4)	Jan. 5
Jan. 6	Jan. 7 Regular School Day (5)**	Jan. 8	Jan. 9	Jan. 10	Jan. 11	Jan. 12

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day

Example #4: Example of Bylaw 4-4-1 Exception 2 Situation

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 16	Dec. 17	Dec. 18	Dec. 19	Dec. 20 Grading Period Ends	Dec. 21 Winter Break (Cal Day #1)	Dec. 22 Cal Day #2
Dec. 23 Cal Day #3	Dec. 24 Winter Break (Cal Day #4)	Dec. 25 Winter Break (Holiday Cal Day #5)	Dec. 26 Winter Break (Holiday)- Eligibility Restored if Able to Verify Grades**	Dec. 27 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 28 Winter Break (Holiday)	Dec. 29

** Immediately Preceding Grading Period Grades become effective at the start of this day for students coming off ineligible status

Please feel free to contact Deborah Moore or Roxanne Price if you have any questions!